

OUTREACH



To The Superannuated Teachers
of Saskatchewan

President's Perspective—Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan Annual General Meeting Regina—May 25-27, 2005

Horst Sawatzki

What a celebration! It truly was a celebration of our organization's continued growth, our organization's financial stability, our organization's basic principle—caring for superannuates.

Our guest speaker, Joan McCusker set the tone for the conference. Her journey as an 'ordinary' person to one of Canada's Olympic Gold Medal curlers inspired us all. Nothing is beyond reach no matter how small you may feel among the masses.

The Serenaders & the Regina STS Chapter Choir renditions of 'the good old tunes' stirred us all—remember when. I am still looking for my little light to shine – but it didn't miss the cha-boom, cha-boom as we tackled the business items Thursday and Friday.

Congratulations to the Honorary Life Membership recipients: Don Bartel, Regina Chapter; Dr. Terence McKague, Regina Chapter and Leslie G. Wood, Victoria Chapter.

Delegates, your thorough discussion, and debate of the resolutions have provided the blue print for this executive for 2005-06. We look forward to tackling the following challenges:

1. Implementation of the Short Term Action Plan of the Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Support Services

2. Negotiation for continued Benefit Plans beyond 2006 will be a challenge I am sure the accumulated expertise of the Benefits Committee be able to meet.
3. The STS organizational review should give us a snap shot of what we are doing right and what we can improve upon, and assist us to make this organization the envy of all.
4. The TSC review and resolution of the administration of the Teacher Superannuation Plan.

A special thanks to Don Bartel and Ernest Mazur for the many hours

they committed to STS serving as executive member and councillor. I am proud to have served with you on this executive over the last 6 years. Enjoy your **retirement!**

To the new kids on the block, **Peter Wiebe & Maxine Stinka**, be ready to work hard and share in the comradery of your fellow executive members.

Each executive member is proud to be part of this organization—STS: to serve its members, to maintain its dignity, and to protect its fundamental principles or goals. Thank you, for your trust and confidence in this new executive.



Members elected to the Executive for 2005 -2006:

Standing: Shirley Dyck, Ed Magis, Maxine Stinka, Wally Derkach, Audry Blais, Ernie Epp, Calvin Bachmeier, Peter Wiebe, Margaret Martin, Mike Kaminski, Jim Segó

Seated: Fred Herron (Executive Secretary), Doreen Lloyd (Past President), Horst Sawatzki (President), Siegrid Schergel (Vice President), Darlene McCullough

2005 AGM Reports

Executive Secretary's Report

2004–2005 is proving to be an important year for the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan. Some of the major achievements have been made in the areas of administration, finance, support services and the Extended Health and Dental Plans.

1. Administration

- 1.1 An increase in membership of over 5%.
- 1.2 New office space that now provides for three very good work areas.
- 1.3 An upgraded automated system that allows for increased efficiency and better access to membership data.
- 1.4 Finalized hotel contracts for AGM's for the years 2006 – 2010 inclusive in Saskatoon.
- 1.5 An updated handbook that includes our Constitution, Bylaws, Policies and Guidelines.
- 1.6 Approval for a strategic planning session for the STS Executive this fall.

2. Finance

- 2.1 Implementation of a new accounting system.
- 2.2 Approval for enhanced audit services.
- 2.3 Progress towards achieving our objectives for the Operations Reserve and the Contingency Fund.
- 2.4 Improved management of our cash flow.

3. Support Services

- 3.1 Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Support Services

- 3.2 Assistance to members when referral services are required.

4. Extended Health and Dental Plans

- 4.1 Positive financial experience for our second year of the existing three year contract with Blue Cross.
- 4.2 A substantial increase in participating levels of the Extended Health and Dental Plans.

While our organization continues to grow and flourish, we have a number of issues and challenges to address:

1. Extended Health and Dental Plans

Inflation and utilization factors continue to place pressure on the cost of health care services. These pressures are caused, in part, by more expensive drugs, increases in the cost of current health care services, reductions of governmental health care coverage and increases to Dental Fee Guides. The inflation/utilization factors are projected to be 14% for the EHP, and 9% for the dental plan for the coming year.

Our plans are among the most successful voluntary plans for retirees anywhere. They are safety net plans that can only be successful when participants take ownership for the plans and when they are viewed as insurance plans. The members of our benefit plans need to be commended for their vigilance of the plans. That vigilance has

allowed for a number of enhancements this past year in both the Extended Health and Dental Plans.

We are now entering into negotiations with Blue Cross for a further contract period. We are very optimistic that any increases to the Extended Health and Dental Plans can be kept to a minimum.

2. Support Services

Our organization will be challenged by the decisions made by this Annual General Meeting related to the Ad Hoc Committee on Support Services. Should the recommendations of the Executive be approved, there will be financial implications in the future to respond to the services contemplated.

3. Teachers Superannuation Commission

The TSC has been examining various alternatives for the administration of the Teachers Superannuation Plan. Some of those alternatives include the status quo, transfer to the STF, outsourcing the services currently provided and transfer to the Public Employees Benefits Administration. The STS Executive is monitoring this matter very carefully on behalf of superannuated teachers.

Finally let me express my thanks to the STS Executive, staff and membership for your support and encouragement. It has been a privilege to serve as your Executive Secretary.

Remember – Every path has a few puddles!

Report of the Office and Staffing Committee

1. The Committee includes the three Saskatoon based Executive Members (Ernie Epp, Fred Herron (chair), and Margaret Martin). In addition Harold Schultz serves as a member of this committee.
2. The Committee met on December 15, 2004 to review and negotiate revised contracts of employment for Shirley Henderson and Colleen Bailey.
3. The Committee reviewed staff requirements and recommended that the employment time for Colleen Bailey be increased up to full time. This proposed change will provide greater flexibility for Shirley Henderson, provide additional time for filing, recruitment and membership data. It will also provide time while the office is closed to keep up with other STS office requirements.
4. The Committee discussed the organizational needs for upgraded audit services and accounting procedures.
5. The Committee was apprised of the computer purchases that include four complete computer work stations and a laptop computer for the STS Office.
6. The Committee discussed some of the goals for 2005 that include accounting upgrades, improved audit services, upgraded technology equipment, computer training, staffing requirements, completion of the benefits interpretation manual and the need for effective communication both internally and externally.
7. The Committee also works diligently on an ongoing basis to provide advice and support on matters related to the publication and distribution of *Outreach*.

Budget and Finance Committee Report

The members of the Budget and Finance Committee for the year 2004 – 2005 included: Don Bartel, Mike Kaminski, Ed Magis, Ernest Mazur, Margaret Martin, Horst Sawatzki (Ex-Officio), Fred Herron (Executive Secretary), Shirley Henderson (Secretary), and Wally Derkach (Chairperson).

The Committee met on September 15, 2004, November 16, 2004, January 12, 2005, and March 16, 2005: reviewing the regular Financial Reports, the YTD reports, the Yearly Summary, the Contingency Fund statement, and the auditor's statement. They subsequently made recommendations to the Executive to accept these reports.

The Committee continued to:

1. Assist the Executive Secretary in preparing the annual budget and recommending it to the Executive.
 - The proposed budget for 2005–06 includes an \$8,000.00 deficit.
 - There is no change in membership fees or Chapter Rebates.
2. Recommend to the Executive matters requiring consideration:

- Insurance coverage for Executive Members while on STS business.
 - The selection of an auditing firm.
 - Investment of the Blue Cross Deposit Account.
 - Investment of a portion of the operations fund.
 - Employment of an Executive Secretary.
3. Monitor membership growth and its impact on the overall operation of the STS. We are pleased with the continuous growth in membership—currently sitting at 7445 (as of April 27, 2005).

We extend a sincere thank you to Fred Herron, Executive Secretary, for his leadership, extensive research, and the tremendous amount of materials that were prepared for each meeting.

Thank you to Shirley Henderson for preparing all the minutes and reports. Thank you to all the committee members who so seriously deliberated over the various issues that came before the committee. You made it easy and a pleasure to act as chairperson.

*V. B. Derkach, Chair
Budget & Finance Committee*



The Provincial Executive and office staff Shirley Henderson and Colleen Bailey preparing AGM folders.

Archives Report

After many years and a lot of hard work by a number of dedicated people we have tangible results for you to see. Much valuable information is now available to the membership.

If you go the STS website (www.sts.sk.ca) you can find a list of the topics that are covered in our archives. We would encourage members to look at the outline on the website and follow it up with a trip to the STS Office.

Our archives contain both written history and pictures. Members may find this material useful for compiling histories of individuals and chapters. When you want to honor one of your chapter members check the archives for information or old photographs. Or maybe you are just a curious researcher looking for interesting history.

We will continue to add current material and evaluate older information that becomes available to us. We would certainly encourage individuals or groups to use our archives as a source of information and provide us with materials suitable for inclusion in the archives.

I would certainly like to thank my committee member, Jim Segó. His cooperation and efforts made work on the archives a pleasant experience.

*Respectfully,
Calvin Bachmeier
Archives Committee, Chairperson*

Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism Report

One of the primary goals of SSM is to be the "Voice of Seniors in Saskatchewan".

SSM Board members attempt to maintain contacts with federal, provincial and municipal government officials. Dialogue with elected officials provides information about

our issues and concerns for older adults. Respecting these elected officials has demonstrated a benefit through a harmonious working relationship. The more that is known about our roles and objectives the stronger and more effective is our dialogue.

The SSM website, www.skseiorsmechanism.ca, is a searchable online database of seniors' services in Saskatchewan. The database is a collection of non-profit, advocacy/support groups and organizations, as well as, government services that relate to seniors. Information provided is resource-based. Information can also be accessed through the HOTLINE 1-888-823-2211.

Saskatchewan seniors have often been labelled as overusers of prescription drugs and of being at high-risk for medication-related problems. The Health Quality Council (HQC) is studying the extent of these problems in Saskatchewan. The HQC will identify areas for improvement and will engage community partners to develop drug management with seniors. HQC recently released a report entitled "Improving the Quality of Drug Management of Saskatchewan

Seniors in Long-Term Care". The HQC project evaluated the quality of drug management in long-term care facilities and identified examples of best practices in the province. A key finding in the report was that one in four residents are taking high risk, potentially avoidable medications. Currently, HQC is examining drug dispensing patterns among Saskatchewan seniors living in their home communities. Innovative models will be identified to improve drug management of community dwelling seniors. HQC presentations have been received by the SSM board members. A working partnership has been established. SSM has agreed to establish a Steering Committee to coordinate and plan further actions in promoting improvement in quality health care. As a partnership with the Health Quality Council, we are committed to building and maintaining a better health system. Watch for further developments...get involved if you can.

Thank you to Al Schell and Don Bartel for offering their services as alternate STS representatives to the SSM board.

*Ernest Mazur
SSM Board Member*



Calvin Bachmeier, executive member, addressing the delegates Jim Segó, executive member (left).

Ad Hoc Committee on Support Services

In March 2005, the Ad Hoc Committee on Support Services completed its mandate with the submission of its final report to the Executive. The complete report was included in the AGM material and outlines the committee's rationale, its actions and progress, and a proposal for future action including a support services framework and action plan. At the AGM the membership supported the implementation of the report and the appended action plans by adopting the four resolutions presented. These established a standing committee on support services and outlined its mandate.

The first part of the committee's mandate in 2005-2006 is to implement the Short Term Action Plan, as outlined in Appendix A of the report. It consists of three components—a Self Help Component, a Program Delivery Component and a Referral Service Component.

Examples under the Self Help Component refer to utilization of the STS Website to: Post articles or reference to articles that are pertinent; provide names of contacts for, and in, each chapter; list hotline addresses and phone numbers for relevant organizations and agencies; provide linkages to other websites. It also refers to Outreach where addresses and phone numbers for organizations and agencies that can provide support to members can be listed, where website addresses to appropriate Internet sources can be listed, and where articles on topics of interest to members could be published.

Examples under the Program Delivery Component suggest placing a response form on the website inviting members to suggest activities and information that would serve their needs and also suggest working with the Lifestyles



Darlene McCullough, co-chair AGM planning, addressing the delegates at the AGM.

Committee on the development of workshops.

Examples under the third component—the Referral Service Component—indicates that a record be kept of the number of calls received and the areas where referral information has been requested. It also suggests identifying sources of information, both online and hardcopy, relevant to seniors' needs.

The committee has also been given a mandate to examine the report recommendations regarding the organizational structure and possible medium and long term plans. If you are interested in reading the complete report, each of your Chapter delegates to the AGM has a copy.

Support Services is a new direction for STS, furthering our aim of providing leadership in matters which pertain to the welfare of our members. It has very exciting possibilities which, in our opinion, are achievable.

In conclusion, I would like to thank everyone who worked on the committee for their commitment to this project—Calvin Bachmeier, Audry Blais, Derwyn Crozier-Smith, Ernie

Epp, Doug Glazer, Fred Herron, Doreen Lloyd, Ernest Mazur, Horst Sawatzki, Al Schell, and Harold Schultz. I would also like to acknowledge the work and dedication of Dalton Tamney, the committee's Research Associate, for his countless hours of research, writing and networking. And finally, thank you to Fred Herron for his expertise and organizational skills and Shirley Henderson for her secretarial support.

*Respectfully submitted,
Siegfried Schergel, Chair*

Retirement Lifestyle Planning Committee Report

The Planning Committee consisted of Shirley Dyck, Tony Linner, Mickey MacLellan, Dona O'Callaghan, Boyd Taylor, and Bert Gordon. George Georget served as STF liaison. As well, a number of others observed or assisted with sessions.

We had planned a full day seminar for October 30, 2004, to include the material from the STF Pre-Retirement seminars, as well as, our own Lifestyles material. The session was overbooked long before the closing date for applications so a

second one was scheduled for November 6. Well over 100 participants were present at each. This appears to be a successful format so we are looking at a minimum of two more this year, October 29/05 and January 21/06.

Forty three teachers were present for a session at the Convention of the Prince Albert and Area Teachers Association on April 25, 2005.

A sincere "Thank You" to all who participated in any way. Thank you also to Shirley Dyck, Bob Krismer, Doreen Lloyd, Dona O'Callaghan and Boyd Taylor who will be members of the Planning Committee for the coming year.

Bert Gordon, Chairperson

Benefits Committee Report

"To enhance the quality of life and well-being of retired teachers who wish to protect themselves against

real and potential life circumstances, the STS shall provide, on a cost efficient basis, medical, dental, life and other forms of insurance to its members and their families."

The STS Benefits Plans have been in place since September, 1996. The above Mission Statement was developed by the Benefits Committee and approved by the Executive at that time. It still provides purpose and direction for the Committee.

In 1996 we had about 875 members in the Extended Health Care Plan, and 1060 in the Dental Plan. The Plans were carried with Johnson Incorporated until December 31, 1999. On January 1, 2000, we entered into a three-year agreement with Saskatchewan Blue Cross and on February 1, 2003, started on a second three year contract. We now have approximately 2242 participants in the Extended Health and Travel Plan and 2199 in the Dental Plan. A total of 2808 members are

participating in one or both plans, and membership continues to grow.

Both Plans are in sound financial condition with an overall claims ratio of about 80% during the second year of the contract. As a result the Claims Fluctuation Reserve has reached its maximum of 12% of claims and some additional funds have been deposited in a surplus fund designed to be used to maintain or improve the Plans. Some improvements have been made during the year. The Dental Plan has been expanded to include coverage for "white" fillings, effective January 1, 2005, and effective December 1, 2004 the wording in Section 5 D.3 - Major Restorative Benefits was changed to remove the Pre-existing Conditions Limitations. The Health Plan has a more comprehensive definition for "canes" and now includes acupuncture.

The Committee met five times during the year, the day before each of

Benefit Plan Reminders

1. ID Numbers: When you enrolled in one or both of the insurance plans you were assigned an identification number which remains constant as long as your status in the plan remains the same. However, if there is a change in status, ie: Family to Couple, Couple to Single. Etc, you will be assigned a new ID and the old one will no longer be valid.
2. Another reminder about the integration of benefits with the Provincial Drug Plan. If your prescription usage reaches \$850, you will receive a reminder from Blue Cross suggesting that you should register with the Provincial drug Plan as you may be eligible for assistance with your drug costs. It costs nothing to apply and may save you and our Prescription Drug Plan a considerable sum of money. At the present time only about one in three of those who could be eligible have actually registered. Have you? Forms are available from your drug store.
3. New Retirees or members leaving another Group Insurance Plan must apply within 60 days for guaranteed acceptance into either the Extended Health or the Dental Insurance plan.
4. Electronic Billing for dental bills is now available if your dentist registers for this plan. It is available for members in all provinces except Alberta. When you have dental work done, one of three situations may apply.
 - Your dentist may bill as usual. You pay the full bill and submit it to Blue Cross for payment.
 - Your dentist may submit the claim electronically to Blue Cross. You will still pay the full amount but Blue Cross will reimburse your portion without you sending in the receipt.
 - Your dentist may submit the claim electronically and instantly receive verification of the amount Blue Cross will pay and how much you will have to pay. You pay your share to your dentist and Blue Cross will reimburse the dentist for the remainder.

the Provincial Executive meetings. One, or both, of the Blue Cross representatives, Darwin Forbes and Bob Wilhelms, was present at each meeting. We were able to examine the progress of the Plans and to discuss with them any problems that had arisen. In addition, Executive Secretary Fred Herron and Office Manager Shirley Henderson are in contact with them between meetings, as the need arises. We extend our thanks to Saskatchewan Blue Cross for the excellent co-operation and service.

Since the present contract expires on January 31, 2006, we have started preparations to negotiate a new contract for that time. The committee has discussed member concerns and suggestions for change. All suggestions will be priced to determine the impact they might have on the Plans. Some of the topics under discussion are: Home Care (Home nursing), Sleep Apnea, drug cards, yearly eye exams and further definition of Geriatric Chairs. Any other suggestions received will be added to the list.

Thank you to committee members Don Bartel, Derwyn Crozier-Smith, Wally Derkach, Shirley Dyck, Ed Magis, Doreen Lloyd, and President Horst Sawatzki for their dedication to the Benefits Plan, and a very special thank you to Executive Secretary Fred Herron, Office Manager Shirley Henderson and office assistant Colleen Bailey, for the tremendous amount of work that they do for us.

Bert Gordon, Chairperson

Councillors' Report

The 73rd Annual Council of the STF held at the Radisson hotel, Saskatoon, began on Tuesday March 29th with an orientation session for new councillors and the Annual Meeting of the Teachers' Credit Union.

Councillors Don Bartel, Wally Derkach, Bert Gordon (substituting

for Shirley Dyck) Mike Kaminski, Doreen Lloyd, Margaret Martin, Horst Sawatzki and Jim Segó representing the STS were in attendance .

At the morning session on March 30th we heard several speakers: Minister of Learning, Honourable Andrew Thomson; Lance Bean, the Saskatchewan School Boards Association President; LEADS President-Elect Marc Danylchuk and Murray Wall, the STF President.

On Wednesday afternoon and all day Thursday councillors attended six different sessions dealing with 50 resolutions and 11 Notices of Motion. We also voted for the new Executive members of the STF. Heather Vermeersch was elected as the new STF president as of July 1, 2005. On Thursday evening we attended a banquet at which time the Arbos Award was bestowed on Earle Robertson, Gerry Cooke and Derwyn Crozier-Smith. Congratulations are extended to the three recipients.

*Margaret Martin
STS Councillor*

Outreach Report

I have been happy to serve as Chair of the *Outreach* committee during this past year. Five issues are printed per year with the number of copies printed climbing gradually. Our last printing in April '04 was 7000. This is up by approximately 1000 from two years ago.

The new *STS Policy Handbook* provides clear guidelines for the publication and distribution of *Outreach*. Even though we have attempted to have each issue prepared, published and distributed in an efficient and appropriate manner, several delays have occurred from time to time. I would like to apologize for any inconveniences caused by these. In an effort to improve in the overall production of *Outreach*, your committee met on April 20. Decisions of this meeting should help. Specific time designations for each stage in production were reviewed and established. Adequate advance notice of anticipated production times will be given to all participants in the preparation of each issue. The goal

STS Executive 2005 - 2006

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|-----------------------------------|---|
| Past President/Councillor: | Doreen Lloyd, Prince Albert |
| President/Councillor: | Horst Sawatzki, Moosomin |
| Vice President/Councillor: | Siegrid Schergel, Moose Jaw |
| Councillors: | Wally Derkach, Nipawin Shirley Dyck, Swift Current Mike Kaminski, Assiniboine Margaret Martin, Saskatoon Jim Segó, Unity |
| Members-at-Large | Calvin Bachmeier, Maple Creek-Medicine Hat Audry Blais, Battleford Ernie Epp, Saskatoon Ed Magis, Yorkton Darlene McCullough, Tisdale Maxine Stinka, Assiniboine Peter Wiebe, Regina |
| ACER-CART | Fred Herron, Saskatoon |

is to have each issue in the mail to you within approximately three weeks of each meeting of your provincial executive. To date the average time of production to mailing is approximately 25 days.

The *Outreach* committee serves both as a copy proofing group and as an editorial body. Each issue receives acute attention by at least 5 STS members before final printing. Committee members are: Fred Herron, Margaret Martin, Harold Schultz, Ernie Epp(Chair)

I would like to express a special note of gratitude to Loretta Romankewicz and Shirley Dyck for always preparing the first draft after each provincial executive meeting, and to Shirley Henderson for getting this draft to the desk top stage at STF. We also need to recognize the professional and prompt services of STF at both the desktop and printing stages. With much gratitude we acknowledge the cooperative and efficient services of the men and women at the Abilities Council for getting each issue into the mail for you.

Please let me know of your comments (beefs or bouquets) regarding your newsletter.

*Thank you
Ernie Epp*

Saskatchewan Teachers Retirement Plan Pension Advisory Committee Report

As a new representative on the above Committee, I am pleased to report for the year 2004.

The first meeting of the Committee for 2005 was held on April 21st. The main purpose of this meeting was to familiarize new members (me) with an overall view of the Committee's responsibilities and how it functions. Two additional meetings have been scheduled for Tuesday, May 24 and Friday, November 18.

The Advisory Committee has three major responsibilities:

- To review the operation of the Plan and the Pension Fund.
- The Committee has the authority to make recommendations to the Provincial Executive.
- The Committee has a responsibility to consider any matter referred by the Board of Directors.

The goal of the STRP is to ensure equality in the pension benefits with that of the Teachers Superannuation Plan. The remaining differences in retirement benefits continue to be the STRP's career

average provision in the calculation of the earnings to determine the monthly allowance and the 3.0 per cent cap on the post retirement Cost of Living Index.

Greystone, our investment manager had a very positive year in 2004 resulting in a 5.91% return on investments. Their investment philosophy of selecting companies with growth earning potential would appear to indicate a positive future.

I look forward to serving as your representative for the next three years.

*Respectfully submitted,
Ted Ewert*

Chapter Awards

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Battlefords Chapter | Stella Ewanchuk, Fred Kozakewich |
| Kindersley Chapter | Everett Churchill |
| Moose Jaw Chapter | Loretta Mayall |
| Prince Albert Chapter | Bert Gordon, Doreen Lloyd, and last year's recipients which were not read last year – Fred Routley, Amelia Will |
| Regina Chapter | Norma Ash, Alex Youck |
| Swift Current Chapter | Dorothy Anning, Shirley Dyck, Dorothy Wilmot |
| Wadena Chapter | Idamay Leech |
| Yorkton Chapter | Jean Adamson, Muriel Dalshaug, Ruth Smith |
| Victoria Chapter | Les Wood |

ACER-CART Report

ACER-CART was founded in 1991 and now includes provincial organizations of retired teachers from every province in Canada with a total membership of approximately 125,000. The objectives of the national organization are:

1. To facilitate and promote liaison and mutual assistance among its member organizations;
2. To promote the interests of its member organizations;
3. To develop strategies for joint action on matters of common concern to member organizations;
4. To cooperate with other seniors' organizations on matters of common concern;
5. To promote excellence in education.

The association has developed a constitution, bylaws and policy statements on pensions and health care for Canadians. Standing committees on communications, health and pensions have been established. It is hoped that the work of these committees will assist ACER-CART to respond to the needs of the member organizations.

ACER-CART has also enabled provincial organizations of retired teachers to exchange information and share points of view with respect to their common concerns and programs. The provincial organizations regularly exchange copies of their newsletters and publications. Each year members of the STS Executive receive summaries of cross-Canada information. These summaries are useful in planning and evaluating programs.

On a personal note, I wish to thank the members of STS for the opportunity to have served on the ACER-CART Board of Directors for the past year.

*Respectfully submitted,
Fred W. Herron*



Celebrations

Balcarres Centennial Homecoming

July 29, 30, and 31st, 2005; Register before July 1; For more information: Website: www.townofbalcarres.ca or phone Dolores Walker 306-334- 2318 or write Homecoming, Box 988, Balcarres, SK S0G 0C0

75th Anniversary Reunion

Balfour Collegiate (formerly Balfour Technical School), Regina, 75th Anniversary Reunion, October 7-9, 2005. Registration information available at <http://balfour.rbe.sk.ca> or call (306)779- 2254; Registration deadline September 7, 2005. Contact: thordarson@sasktel.net or at 789-4687. All former students, staff and support staff are invited.

Grand Finale Banquet

Potashville School Division #80's
Grand Finale Banquet
Saturday November 12, 2005 Esterhazy, SK

Former teachers, superannuates and all other employees are invited to the celebration of 41 years of history. Please reply by Sept. 9, 2005 to P.J. Gillen School Attention: R.G.Schramm Box 1420, Esterhazy, SK S0A 0X0 or E-mail: r.g.schramm@sasktel.net

Lashburn Homecoming 2005

Lashburn is celebrating
Saskatchewan's Centennial
July 1 - 3, 2005

Resolutions

Resolutions Directed to STS

Resolution One

BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw 1 – Membership be amended by adding the following: 1. Any retired STF staff member, or the surviving spouse of a retired STF staff member, receiving a retirement allowance from the STF Staff Pension Plan. **CARRIED**

Resolution Two

BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw 5.1.1 (page 9) be amended to read as follows:

The STS shall hold an Annual General Meeting on dates determined by the STS Executive. The agenda shall include the following topics:

1. Election of President, Vice-President, Members-at-Large, Councillors, and ACER-CART Representative
2. Proposed Budget
3. Fee Structure
4. Appointment of an auditor

CARRIED

Resolution Three

BE IT RESOLVED that Guidelines 5.2 (page 42) be amended by substituting:

One month prior to the STS Annual Meeting for "by April 20th".

CARRIED

Resolution Four

BE IT RESOLVED that the Superannuated Teachers of

Saskatchewan Annual General Meeting receive the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Support Services. **CARRIED**

Resolution Five

BE IT RESOLVED that the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan establish a Standing Committee on Support Services. **CARRIED**

Resolution Six

BE IT RESOLVED that the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan Standing Committee of Support Services oversee the implementation of the Short Term Action Plan for 2005 – 2006 **CARRIED**

Resolution Seven

BE IT RESOLVED that the Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Support Services be referred to the Standing Committee on Support Services and it be given a mandate to examine the recommendations regarding the organization structure and the possible medium and long term plans. **CARRIED**

Resolution Eight

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS investigate and report the cost implications of changing our Drug Plan coverage from the Saskatchewan formulary to the National formulary. **CARRIED**

Resolution Nine

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS annual fee for 2005 – 2006 be \$27.00

per person. **CARRIED**

Resolution Ten

BE IT RESOLVED that the annual rebate to Chapters for 2005 – 2006 be \$7.00 per person. **CARRIED**

Resolutions Directed to STF

Resolution Eleven

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS urge that the STF negotiate an increase in the Teachers' Group Life Insurance Plan coverage after age 65 to \$20,000. **CARRIED**

Resolution Twelve

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS urge the STF to renegotiate with the Teachers' Group Life Insurance carrier to increase the insurance coverage after age 65. **CARRIED**

Resolution Thirteen

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS urge the STF to renegotiate with the Teachers' Group Life Insurance carrier to remove the maximum age restriction for those enrolled in the Group Life Insurance Plan. **CARRIED**

Resolution Fourteen

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS urge the STF to negotiate for 100% Cost of Living Adjustment in the next round of negotiations. **CARRIED**

Resolutions Directed to ACER-CART

Resolution Fifteen

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS urge the Canadian Association of Retired Teachers (ACER-CART) to petition the Government of Canada to change the tax credit formula to increase the charitable tax credit to the same level as political tax credits. **CARRIED**

Resolutions Directed to the Provincial Government

Resolution Sixteen

BE IT RESOLVED that we oppose the proposed New School Division Boundary proposal. **TABLED**

Resolution Seventeen

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS urge the Government of Saskatchewan to abolish the mandatory retirement age of 65. **CARRIED**

Late Resolution 1

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS ask the Provincial Department of Health to make the following list of drugs medications for formulary:

1. Plavix
2. Pariet
3. Pantoloc
4. Myoflex

DEFEATED

Courtesy Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED that a sincere expression of appreciation and thanks be extended to the following:

- Joan McCusker, Gold Medal Olympian, our guest speaker
- The Serenaders, who entertained on Wednesday night
- The Regina Chapter Choir, who entertained after the banquet
- Claude Jean Harel, Janet Thompson, Jim Slough, Fred Herron, J McDonald and W. Coates—presenters of the interest sessions
- Orren Bartel and Blaine Morrison, for their playing
- Councillor Wade Murray, who brought greetings from the city of Regina
- The Honourable Glenn Hagel, who brought greetings on behalf of the Centennial Committee
- Murray Wall, President, STF, for bringing greetings
- Our corporate sponsors: ESTI, Greystone Capital Manage-

ment, Sask Blue Cross, Teachers' Credit Union and the Ramada Hotel

- Moose Jaw and Regina Chapters for assisting with registration
- the management and staff of the Ramada Hotel
- President Horst Sawatzki for his leadership during the past year.
- Shirley Henderson, Office Manager and Colleen Bailey, Office Assistant who do the behind the scenes work that makes this conference run so smoothly
- Fred Herron, Executive Secretary, who oversees the operation of the organization and works so diligently on behalf of the STS
- Resolution Group Facilitators and Resource Persons and the Chairpersons of the Interest Sessions
- And to Shirley Dyck and Darlene McCullough the extremely capable Co-Chairpersons of the Conference Planning Committee for planning and organizing another very successful conference

For Your Information

For a copy of the Living Will Booklet "Let Me Decide", write to:

673 Upper James Street
P.O. Box 60615, Hamilton, Ontario L9C 5R9

Websites for Safe Drug information:

www.ethnocultural.ca www.canadapharma.org

Website for Living Will information:

www.cbc.ca/news/background/wills Scroll down to Saskatchewan and click on Health Care Directive ... or Health Care Directive, FAQ

Highlights of the 32nd AGM

Shirley Dyck and Darlene McCullough
Co-Chairs of the Annual General Meeting Planning Committee

The 2005 Annual General Meeting held in the Canadian Ballroom of the Ramada Hotel in Regina on May 25–27 was a huge success.

Registration began at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, May 25th. There were over 210 delegates registered plus 17 executive members, and 3 office staff representing the 44 Chapters which included delegates from four British Columbia Chapters of Fraser Valley, Victoria, Vancouver Lower Mainland, and Okanagan Valley.

We again had **Corporate Sponsorship** for our AGM. We sincerely thank the **Ramada Hotel, Greystone Investors, The Teachers' Credit Union, Blue Cross and ESTI** for their generosity.

Wednesday Evening – Canadian Ballroom

President Horst Sawatzki welcomed the delegates to this 32nd Annual General Meeting. He then introduced our guest speaker Joan McCusker. Joan McCusker set the tone of the Conference with an informative fun-filled address, "Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things". Joan gave a humorous comparison between a teacher and being a second on a curling team. She shared her experiences from the Olympics in Nagano and her Olympic gold medal was circulated among the delegates. Joan spoke on the importance of being a team player, not only in an athletic role but in life as well. Attitude is the only thing that we can control and choose. She emphasized that the greatest reward for success that a person has is not what they get for it, but rather it is what a person becomes by it.

Joan was a gracious speaker with a



L to R: President Horst Sawatzki, Joan McCusker (Feature Speaker) and Bernice Sawatzki (President's wife).

great sense of humour. Vice President, Wally Derkach thanked the Guest Speaker. After the address Joan spent time with delegates in the foyer where a number of delegates donned Olympic gear and pictures were taken.

Past President, Doreen Lloyd, Chair of the Nominations Committee introduced the candidates for the 2005–2006 year.

President Horst introduced The Serenaders. This musical group was very enthusiastic and lively and enjoying every minute of their performance. The Serenaders were founded under the direction of Gerry Theriault and is now under the direction of Wil Sinclair. There are 26 members in the group which includes an accordion, 3 guitars, a mandolin and a violin. Their music encompassed a wide variety of old favourites, ethnic songs and gospel. They were thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

Thursday, May 26

President, Horst Sawatzki chaired the Plenary Session held in the Canadian Ballroom.

Following the singing of "O Canada" with accompanist, Orren Bartel, Ernie Epp asked the invocation. This was followed by a minute of silence. President Horst then introduced Councillor Wade Murray who brought greetings from the City of Regina. Councillor Murray is serving his first term on Regina City Council, representing residents of Ward 6. He referred to Regina as Canada's Greatest City. He thanked the Superannuates for great service to their communities.

Horst then introduced Glen Hagel, MLA Moose Jaw North. He brought greetings from Saskatchewan's Centennial Celebration Committee 100 – Years of Heart. Mr. Hagel discussed the goal of Celebrate Saskatchewan. He

mentioned the importance and involvement of Saskatchewan Schools in our centennial and how the year 2005 is focussing on our youth. Theresa Sokyka is named the ambassador for our youth in this celebration. Every student will receive a white spruce tree to plant this fall. He stated "The face of our future is the youth of today". He encouraged everyone to participate in a celebration of our great province.

President Horst delivered his Presidential Address.

Doreen Lloyd brought forward the slate of nominees. Fred Herron, Executive Secretary, moved we table the committee reports until Friday.

Shirley Dyck, AGM. Co-Chair, discussed the Annual General Meeting format.

Delegates then broke into five groups to discuss the resolutions.

On Thursday afternoon the delegates could attend three of the five Interest Sessions offered: Adventures in Saskatchewan – Claude Jean Harel; Elsie Mirinuck School in Motion – Janet Thompson; History of Regina – Jim Slough; Restructuring School Divisions – Fred Herron; SSM Post Retirement Needs – Joanne McDonald, Wally Coates.

Thursday Evening

Thursday evening, delegates and guests enjoyed the banquet held in the Canadian Ballroom. President Horst Sawatzki introduced the head table, the Executive, the Honorary Life Members and the special guests. The Archive Committee of Calvin Bachmeier and Jim Segó presented Membership Growth Awards. Horst read the list of superannuates that had received Chapter awards in 2004.

Darlene McCullough, Chair of the Honorary Life Memberships, bestowed this prestigious award on three worthy candidates: Don



Honorary Life Members

L to R: Les Wood (Victoria Chapter), Terry McKague (Regina Chapter), Don Bartel (Provincial Executive and Regina Chapter)

Honorary Life Memberships

Donald Bartel – Regina Chapter

- Provincial STS Executive Member since 1994
- Vice-Councillor and Councillor; Benefits Committee
- STF Vice-Councillor and Councillor
- Regina Public School Teachers Association Executive for 16 years

Dr. Terrence McKague – Regina Chapter

- Vice-President and President of STS
- Vice-President of ACER/CART
- STF Executive Assistant
- Vice-President, President, Past President of Regina Chapter

Leslie G. Wood – Victoria Chapter

- BC delegate to AGM for many years – reported to other BC chapters
- Vice-President, President of Victoria Chapter for 10 years
- Chapter Award of Merit in 2004
- President of SETA (Saskatchewan English Teachers' Association)

Bartel, Dr. Terry McKague and Leslie G. Wood.

President Horst introduced the Regina Chapter Choir and again, we were royally entertained. The Regina Chapter Choir under the direction of Marjorie Burns has been in existence for twelve years. The choir is accompanied by pianist, Sandra Cosby. This is a dedicated group of 40 superannuated teachers who are members of the Regina Chapter of STS. Their repertoire included songs of Saskatchewan in keeping with the theme Celebration 2005. The audience thoroughly enjoyed the performance and left with their spirits lifted and a spring in their step.

Friday, May 27

President Horst introduced Murray Wall, President of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation .

Murray brought greetings from the STF. He extended congratulations to the recipients of the Honorary Life Memberships. He stated that Superannuates are huge contributors to Education in the province as substitutes in classrooms, volunteers, contributors to the McDowell Foundation, in the involvement in

Retirement Lifestyle Planning and on the STF Council. He was pleased with the number of councillors increased to eight because this gave a voice, involvement, and interaction to the Plenary System at Council. He was pleased with the STS Hospitality Room at Council as this was an important forum for discussion and interaction. He also discussed the Provincial Bargaining in light of Superannuation and the Cost of Living Allowance. He also thanked Superannuates for their volunteered support to Susan Bates who is in charge of arrangements for the up coming Canadian Teachers' Federation Conference. He thanked Superannuates for their many and continuous contributions and their close relationship with teachers in our province.

Displays:

We were pleased to have displays from the McDowell Foundation. The Teachers' Credit Union, the STF, and STS Memorabilia, Problem Gambling, and the Saskatchewan Centennial Committee. Several draws were made from these displays. We wish to thank them for their generosity. Congratulations to the lucky winners.

The Annual Meeting:

The minutes of the 2004 annual meeting were presented by Fred Herron and adopted as printed. The nomination slate was presented and Doreen Lloyd conducted the election of officers. Committee Reports presented and adopted were:

Office and Staffing – Fred Herron
ACER-CART – Fred Herron
Budget and Finance – Wally Derkach
Recreation – Ed Magis
Archivist – Calvin Bachmeier
Councillors – Margaret Martin
Outreach – Ernie Epp
SSM – Ernest Mazur
Lifestyle Planning – Bert Gordon
Group Benefits – Bert Gordon
Support Services – Siegrid Schergel
Constitution – Siegrid Schergel

President Horst presented the resolutions and changes to the Constitution and Bylaws.

Fred Herron, Executive Secretary presented the 2005 – 2006 budget. There was the appointment of an auditor.

Seigrid Schergel presented the courtesy resolutions.

In closing Horst Sawatzki thanked the outgoing members, Ernie Mazur and Don Bartel, for their many years of service to the STS.

President Horst thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the thirty-second Annual General Meeting.



The "Serenaders" providing great musical entertainment.



A table of guests enjoying the AGM Banquet celebration.



Joan McCusker crowning president Horst Sawatzki with an Olympic headpiece.

Joan McCusker – feature speaker and Olympic Gold medal curler with 3 happy models wearing her Olympic clothing.



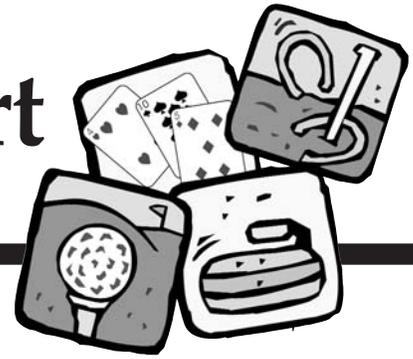
Isobel Spence and Guest.



All AGM photographs are courtesy Bert Gordon – Prince Albert Chapter and past STS Executive member.

STS Activities Report

Ed Magis, Audry Blais, Calvin Bachmeier



Upcoming Events

Bridge

Hosts: Moose Jaw Chapter; at Days Inn; October 5 and 6, 2005; Fee: \$25.00 Please register before October 1 with Lawrence Gellela 693-1726 ; Individual play :Wed. evening; pairs: Thursday morning; Teams of Four: Thursday afternoon

Bowling

Saskatoon hosted in 2005; Potashville (Esterhazy) 2006

Curling

Moosomin (2005) See entry form Outlook (2006)

Golf

Nipawin June 8,9, 2005; Weyburn (2006)

Nature Saskatchewan Fall Meet

Regina Sept. 30, Oct. 1&2 – Fieldtrips in and around Regina including Wascana Park; Contact: Nature Saskatchewan 1-800-667-4668; www.naturesask.ca

Stitch and Quilt

Kenosee Lake (Mainline Chapter) October 2 & 3, 2005

New! New! New! – Wine Connoisseurs Soiree

Wynyard; Contact: Walter Oleksy 675- 2183 ; Details next *Outreach*

And More Excitement – Fishing Derby

Hosts

Victoria Chapter; Details next *Outreach*

Tours

Late fall - some members will participate in the Churchill Ecology Polar Bear Tour;

Interest has been expressed in a trip to England or Russia/Ukraine. If you are interested, contact the STS office.



May 4, 2005 Saskatoon

Home Team: Gold Medalists and Tournament Trophy Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan Champions Flora Henderson

L to R: Ron Tycholiz, Gloria Leniuk, Ed Magis, Rich Towriss, Kathy East, Ken Mathers



STS High Single 2005

L to R: Ethel Welsh, Ken Mathers



Provincial Bowling – Host City Saskatoon May 3, and 4, 2005

**Tournament Team: Gold Medalist and Plaque: Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan
donated by Saskatoon Chapter Bowling**

L to R: Ron Tycholiz, Art Stricker, Eleanor Pletz, Ann Simpson-Elmer, Ethel Welsh



**Provincial Bowling Tournament Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan –
Saskatoon Chapter 2005 Committee:**

**L to R: Bill Meger, Bergit Manley, Terry Manley, Willmer Willems, Stella Shulhan,
Rose Yaworski. Missing: Vic Anton**

Note: Bowling photographs courtesy Stella Shulhan

STS Provincial Curling Bonspiel

November 17 & 18, 2005, Moosomin Curling Club

Registration \$150.00; Registration Deadline: October 14, 2005

Open To STS Members And Spouses; Limit 16 Rinks; Extra Banquet Tickets: \$15.00

Contact: Dan & Gerri Dayday at 435-3755 or Dave & Sharon Meyers at 435-3049

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Members:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Fees:

_____ X \$150.00 = _____ Fees payable to: Moosomin Chapter STS

Send entries to **Dan & Gerri Dayday, Box 992, Moosomin, SK S0G 3N0**

Accommodations:

Country Squire Inn 435-4228; Prairie Pride Motel 1-800-488-8689; Moosomin Motel 435-3391

Fourth Annual

STS Kaiser Tournament

We will hold the tournament at the New Horizons Hall in **Unity** from 9:00 until 4:30 on **October 1, 2005**.

Our entry fee will be **\$15.00** per player.

STS members and spouses may enter by sending their entries accompanied by their entry fees to:

Jim Sego
Box 1072

UNITY, SK. S0K 4L0.

The deadline for entries is **September 23, 2005**.

In Memoriam

*With great appreciation
we remember our
colleagues for their
many years of
educational services
to the children and
young people of
Saskatchewan.*

| Name (Nee) | Date of Death | Last Taught |
|------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| Armitage, Beverley (Mahan) | Apr. 30/05 | |
| Brockman, Verna | Feb. 08/05 | Lanigan SD #40 |
| Brown, Hilda | Feb. 18/05 | |
| Bull, Hulda | Feb. 09/05 | |
| Dyck, Bertha | Feb. 26/05 | |
| Ferster, Estrid | Feb. 18/05 | |
| Forli, Sylvie (Fletcher) | Mar. 25/05 | Tisdale S.D. |
| Frison, Edward | Feb. 14/05 | |
| Holmedal, Irene | Feb. 23/05 | |
| Horton, Leonard | Feb. 03/05 | |
| Lipka, John | Feb. 17/05 | Regina R.C.S.S.D. #81 |
| McGuire, Irene | Feb. 08/05 | Oxbow SD #51 |
| McIntyre, Myrtle | Dec. 28/04 | |
| Richford, Willis | May 6/05 | Norquay High School |
| Robberstad, LaVerne | Feb. 08/05 | |
| Ratushniak, Steve | Apr. 12/05 | Maidstone |
| Schulte, Ida Sr. | Feb. 06/05 | Ursuline Academy |
| Simpson, Olive | Feb. 19/05 | |
| Stroh, Ethel | Feb. 08/05 | |
| Turgeon, Mary | Feb. 07/05 | |
| Van Cleave, Sharon (Motion) | Mar. 26/05 | Saskatoon Public |
| Wickhorst, Mary | Feb. 21/05 | |
| Woods, Evelyn | Feb. 11/05 | Weyburn Central SD #73 |
| Yaworski, Olga | Feb. 06/05 | Regina R.C.S.S.D. #81 |
| Zerebesky, Paul | Aug. 22/01 | |
| Zieger, Linda (Munro, Hagel) | Feb. 01/05 | Wilkie SD #59 |

From Your Editor

The 32nd AGM wraps up another successful year in the history of Superannuated Teachers. It's been a good year as the various reports attest to what has been accomplished and what is in the works and we agree that our organization is not standing still. It is moving forward and looking after our very best interests, very well!

*Have a happy,
healthy summer!*

Loretta Romanekwicz
773-5244
allorosa@sasktel.net

Congratulations to Cary Piller

Melville's Citizen of the Year for her positive influence upon her students, while she was teaching; and her outstanding efforts, since she retired, to beautify Melville, as part of the city's Community-in-Bloom committee. This includes the Martha's Garden Project at the Melville Health Centre and the Welcome signs on either side of the city. Every community would be fortunate to have a citizen with a positive attitude like Cary.

Special Mention must be made of Mr. Willis Richford

who passed away May 6, a few months before what would have been his 100th birthday.

He is remembered for his passion and advocacy of the Port of Churchill and for his service to community and province as recognized in 1984 as the Citizen of the Year for north eastern Saskatchewan; in 1992 when he received the 125th Canadian Commemorative Medal, and most recently when he received the Saskatchewan Centenarian Medallion.

STF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION PRIZES

Congratulations to the Recipients of the 2004-05 STF Post-Secondary Education Prizes

The (5) STF Entrance Prizes in the amount of \$1,000 will be awarded to:

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Kristinn Gislason | Meadow Lake, SK | Carpenter High School |
| Kathryn Goodrich | Meacham, SK | Viscount Central School |
| Nicole Morgan | Nipawin, SK | L.P. Miller High School |
| Alistair Smith | Rosetown, SK | Rosetown Central High School |
| Lane Stoll | Neudorf, SK | North Valley High School |

The recipients above have been drawn from 156 applications received. They are children of teachers who are current, superannuated or deceased members of the STF. They are entering their first year at an accredited post-secondary institution.

The (5) STF Continuing Post-Secondary Education Prizes in the amount of \$1,000 will be awarded to:

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| Mark Berg | Lashburn, SK | University of Alberta / NAIT |
| Kara Edwards | Saskatoon, SK | University of Ottawa |
| Thomas Hayes | Eastend, SK | University of Regina |
| Tia Hutchinson | Moose Jaw, SK | Medicine Hat College |
| Amanda Schurman | Saskatoon, SK | Concordia University |

The recipients above have been drawn from 240 applications received. They are children of teachers who are current, superannuated or deceased members of the STF. They have completed their first year and are entering a subsequent year as a full-time student in an accredited post-secondary institution.



Congratulations

to

Nathan Birrell

recipient of the STS scholarship.

OUTREACH

To The Superannuated Teachers
of Saskatchewan

The newsletter of the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan, is published five times a year.

To control costs, one copy is sent to households where both spouses are members. If this is not satisfactory, please contact the STS office in Saskatoon.

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Monday to Friday
8:30 A.M. to 12:00 noon

Publications Mail Agreement No.40017216
Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:
STS Office
2317 Arlington Avenue
Saskatoon, SK S7J 2H8